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Sacramento, CA

Lambda Letters Project

32566

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6212 Silverton Way, Carmichael, California 95608

Phone (916) 965-6851

People of Color/Women's Issue

Stopping the Ban on Affirmative Action

California's affirmative action laws, which are meant to protect women and people of color against discriminatory hiring practices, are in great jeopardy. Assemblymember Bernie Richter has introduced A.C.A. 2, a new version of an anti-affirmative action bill that was defeated last year. This new proposal entirely wipes out affirmative action laws for the state of California. These laws exist in order to rectify severe discriminatory hiring practices of the past and ensure equal hiring opportunities for everyone, particularly those who have been discriminated against so harshly, such as people of color.

Governor Wilson has come out in strong support of A.C.A. 2. It is speculated that Wilson's support of the ban on affirmative action laws is a ploy to improve his relations with conservative Republicans in preparation for the GOP presidential primaries.

At any rate, those directly affected by A.C.A. 2 will be people of color and women. Please sign the letter to your assemblymember and voice your opposition to the lifting of protective hiring laws for these Californians.

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PFLAG Event to Benefit Lambda Letters

The Sacramento chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) has announced that the San Francisco Gay and Lesbian Marching Band will perform in Sacramento this coming fall. The event will be a fund-raiser, with proceeds to be split between Sacramento PFLAG and the Lambda Letters Project. Longtime LLP members Ellie Charlton and Jeanne Barnett were instrumental in persuading PFLAG to share proceeds from the event with us.

Sacramento-area volunteers are needed to help produce the event. People are needed to help do publicity, sell tickets, set up and decorate the hall, and prepare a meal for the performers. Please help us repay the generosity of Sacramento PFLAG by volunteering to do one of the above tasks. Let us know by enclosing a note with your letters or by calling us at (916) 965-6851. Let's make this a very successful benefit for both the Lambda Letters Project and PFLAG!

Entertainment Book Sales Soar!

During the 1994-95 selling season our Entertainment Book sellers sold 309 books, almost 50 more than last year! Entertainment Book sales provide a much-needed source of funds to the Project, and we are deeply grateful to those who sold books for us or who bought them from us. We may still be able to obtain a few more books for sale. Please let us know if you would like to purchase one. The coupons in the book are good until November 30, 1995, so the books are still a good buy.

Lambda Letters Project

Statement of Purpose

To promote people of color, feminist, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and HIV/AIDS—status advocacy and to bring people of color, women, lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and persons affected by or living with HIV/AIDS into full participation in the mainstream of American society now, exercising all the privileges and responsibilities thereof.

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Publication of the name of any person or organization in articles or advertising in the Lambda Letters Project newsletter should not be construed as any indication of the sexual orientation of such person or organization.

Sponsors of Lambda Letters Project

Corporate Benefactors (\$250-\$350)

Faces of Sacramento

Lambda Letters Progress Report

Letters Collected

1994 28,297 letters

Dollars Spent

1994 \$24,366

Can You Help?

Please support the very important work of the Lambda Letters Project with your contributions.

Adults * Adolescents * Children

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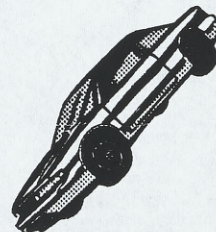
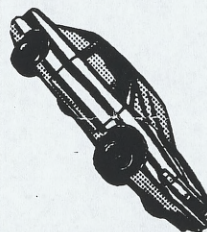
Counseling for the Rainbow Community

5120 Manzanita, Suite 100, Carmichael, CA 95608
Evening Hours Sliding Fee (916) 564 - 8701

PINK TRIANGLE TRAFFIC SCHOOL

If you have to go to traffic school
it might as well be
gay/lesbian!

415-541-8599



Change of Address Form

Please change my address to:

Name _____

Address _____

City, ZIP Code _____

Phone _____

Mail to LLP, 6212 Silverton Way, Carmichael, CA 95608.

☐ Yes, I want to make a donation to help LLP continue its important work. (Appreciated but not required.)

☐ \$10 ☐ \$20* ☐ \$30 ☐ other \$ _____

(*Actual cost to LLP for you to receive 44 letters in one year.)

Advertising Rates

Business-card sized ads (3½" × 2") \$10 per issue

Quarter-page ads \$20 per issue

Half-page ads \$30 per issue

Full-page ads \$50 per issue

Send payment and your camera-ready copy,
along with your name and phone number, to:

Lambda Letters Project

6212 Silverton Way

Carmichael, CA 95608

Deadline is the 25th of each month.

Which Issues Do You Care About Most?

Please Complete and Return Our Survey

Once a month our staff gathers to choose the topics of the letters you receive. Prior to the meeting we contact other lobbying groups, such as LIFE AIDS Lobby, California NOW, the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, and other groups for their input. We also read our community's newspapers and attempt to understand what issues are of greatest concern to the average person in our community. That last element is always the hardest to measure. We are often left guessing exactly what is of most importance to you, the members we represent.

So, this month we are doing a survey to determine the issues that are of most concern to you. Please review the list of topics on the right and indicate which are the most important to you in each of the four main areas that we cover.

For example, put the number 1 next to the most important AIDS issue, the most important women's issue, the most important gay/lesbian/bisexual issue, and the most important people of color issue. Then put a 2 next to the second most important issue in each of those areas, etc.

In this way, you'll be telling us the *four* most important issues in each of the four areas we cover. Feel free to add your own topics on the lines marked "Other" and rank them appropriately. Any other comments you wish to send us will also be very welcome.

We are eager to see the results of this survey and will consider them carefully as we choose topics to cover during 1995.

Adults * Adolescents * Children

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Clip and send back to Lambda Letters!

AIDS Issues

- Funding for AIDS needs (e.g., research, prevention, and treatment) _____
- Discrimination in housing and employment _____
- Discrimination by health care providers _____
- Clean needle exchange _____
- Continued anonymous HIV testing _____
- Access to affordable health care _____
- Access to affordable housing for PWAs _____
- Other _____

Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Issues

- Domestic partner registration _____
- Legalization of same-sex marriage _____
- Discrimination in housing and employment _____
- Violence and hate crimes _____
- Domestic partner health benefits _____
- Immigration of gays to the U.S. _____
- Gays in the military _____
- Other _____

Women's Issues

- Safe, legal access to affordable abortions _____
- Funding women's health research (including breast cancer) _____
- Tracing/enforcement of delinquent child support payments _____
- Pay equity in the workplace _____
- Domestic violence _____
- Affirmative action _____
- Parental custody rights _____
- Other _____

People of Color Issues

- Affirmative action _____
- Violence and hate crimes _____
- Access to quality schools _____
- Access to job training programs _____
- Crime prevention programs _____
- Inner city redevelopment _____
- Culturally sensitive health care _____
- Other _____

Misc.

- Do you have e-mail? _____
- May we have your e-mail address so we can alert you when your immediate input to legislators is needed? _____
- E-mail address: _____
- What city do you live in? _____

Support Inclusion of Lesbians in U.N. Conference on Women

In September, 1995, the United Nations IV World Conference on Women will meet in Beijing, China. At that conference, the member states of the United Nations will adopt a Platform for Action that will set the agenda for action on women's issues for years to come. The final planning meeting for that conference is being held next month in New York City.

The International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission has been demanding that lesbian issues be included in the conference agenda and in the Platform for Action generated by that conference. We invite you support their demand by writing to Gertrude Mongella, Secretary-General of the IV World Conference on Women.

Five regional preparatory meetings have occurred in the last few months, and activists have met with some success in raising lesbian concerns at those meetings. Lesbian demands were included in the recommendations submitted by nongovernmental organizations at the Latin America and Caribbean preparatory meeting, and there was active support of lesbian issues from many of the organizations attending that meeting. The Europe and North America Regional Platform for Action already mentions sexual orientation in its preamble, and directs governments to include lesbian groups in the design, development, and implementation of strategies for change. This is the first time that a document adopted by member states of the United Nations has included any mention of sexual orientation. These documents will be used in drafting the final version of the Platform for Action approved by the World Conference on Women.

It is crucial that pressure be brought on the Conference Secretariat to include these issues in the conference's agenda and in the final Plan for Action. The final preconference planning meeting occurs in March, so please get your letters in soon!

Keeping *All* Families Intact

The Personal Responsibility Act, H.R. 4, is the welfare reform legislation that is included in the GOP's "Contract with America," which is to be introduced during the first 100 days of Congress. Authored by Rep. E. Clay Shaw Jr. (R-FL), H.R. 4 proposes to enact a tough two-years-and-you're-out provision with work requirements in order to "promote individual responsibility." The major flaw of this bill is that it fails to address the very reasons why the majority of these mothers are unemployed and on welfare.

The basic assumption of this bill is that mothers are on welfare because they don't want to work. The truth is different: most mothers are simply unable to find employment because they're either underskilled for today's market; they can't afford to pay the high costs of child care for their children while they're at work; or they're afraid to leave a system that provides basic health care benefits for their children. Nevertheless, the funding and political support necessary to address these needs adequately never seem to materialize.

As for the assumption that women need "the boot" after two years because they tend to become career recipients, a recent study done by the Department of Health and Human Services found that 70 percent of welfare recipients leave the rolls within two years, and 90 percent leave within five years.

H.R. 4 also proposes to deny benefits to unwed, teenage mothers, while extending these same benefits to married ones. This provision is inherently discriminatory by addressing the needs of "legitimate" children while denying basic support to ordinary, needy children who happen to be born out of wedlock. A child born to an unmarried teenage mother must possess the same fundamental rights and privileges as one born to a married mother. Anything less is flagrant discrimination.

This month's letter urges your legislator to oppose this harsh bill. Please sign it so we can persuade Congress to create a more humane proposal for welfare reform, one that is supportive rather than punitive—one that promises especially to leave the family intact.

Congressional Funding Watch, Cont'd

Last month we wrote members of California's delegation in the House of Representatives, urging them to fund HIV/AIDS programs for the 1996 fiscal year at the level that has been recommended by a nationwide coalition of HIV/AIDS service organizations. We also asked that they not cut existing HIV/AIDS funding for 1995.

This month we are sending a similar letter to Senators Boxer and Feinstein. Eventually the funding recommendations from both houses of Congress will have to be resolved by conference committees. Table 1 lists the recommended funding levels for FY 1996. All of these levels are increases over 1995 levels. We have spelled out the justifications for these new amounts in both our letters and last month's newsletter, so we will

Table 1. Congressional Funding Levels Requested for FY 1996 (in millions)

Funding Area	Funding Proposed	Increase over FY 1995
HIV/AIDS prevention education (Centers for Disease Control & Prevention)	\$723.30	\$133
Ryan White Care Act (Health Resources and Services Administration)	\$934.90	\$301
HIV/AIDS research (National Institutes of Health)	\$1,692.00	\$345
HIV/AIDS housing (AIDS Housing Opportunities Act)	\$337.00	\$151

not repeat them here. We must keep the pressure on our elected officials at all levels of government and hope you will aid us by promptly signing and returning your letters to us throughout 1995.

Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Issue

Senator Helms Is at It Again

Recently, Senator Helms introduced two anti-gay bills in the U.S. Senate. S.B. 23 would give a special exemption from workplace nondiscrimination policies to federal government employees who voice prejudices against their lesbian, gay, and bisexual coworkers. Employees voicing such prejudices against racial or ethnic minorities on the job would be subject to reprimand, but under S.B. 23 the expression of anti-gay sentiments would go unpunished! This bill is the result of an incident last year in which an Equal Employment Opportunity Counselor at the Department of Agriculture was reprimanded for voicing anti-gay prejudices on television.

S.B. 25, Helms' other homophobic bill, would deny lesbian, gay, and bisexual federal employee associations the right to hold meetings on government property, to use e-mail to communicate with each other about their concerns, or to use government facilities in any other way that might be construed to "embrace, accept, condone or celebrate homosexuality as a legitimate or normal lifestyle."

As you might expect, federal employees in other minority groups are permitted to do these things. To say that S.B. 25 is intrusive is an understatement!

It will be some time before these bills come up for a vote in committee or on the Senate floor. With luck, they may never even be scheduled for committee hearings. Even so, you may wish to send a short note or make a phone call to the offices of Senators Boxer and Feinstein to express your opposition to S.B. 23 and 25. The Senators' addresses and phone numbers are as follows:

Senator Barbara Boxer	Senator Dianne Feinstein
The U.S. Senate	The U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510	Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-3553 DC	(202) 224-3841
(415) 403-0100 CA	(415) 249-4777



Couples, Families, Individuals

Ellie Zacks, Ph.D.

*Clinical Psychologist
PSY10426*

(916) 334-0667

By Appointment

4811 Chippendale Dr., Suite 901, Sacramento, CA 95841



Faces

2000 K Street
Sacramento, CA 95816
(916) 448-7798

*Monday - Country dance lessons with Laurie
\$100 Cash drawing every Monday night.
Starts 10:00 P.M.*

*Tuesday - Karaoke - Video Bar, \$5000 cash
National Contest. Ask for details.*

*Wednesday - Ladies Night
Country 7:00-10:00 P.M.
Disco 10:00-2:00 A.M.*

Thursday - Strippers 9:00- 11:00 P.M.

*Friday - Saturday
Disco - 10:00-2:00 A.M.*

Sunday - Barbecue - Open 3:00 P.M.

Happy Valentine's Day